



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE
AND METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF
APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14)**



Jakarta, Indonesia, 19 – 22 July 2010

Agenda Item 8: Regional Implementation of World Area Forecast System (WAFS)

1) implementation issues associated with cessation of ISCS-G2

WAFS INTERNET FILE SERVER (WIFS) – UPDATE

(Presented by the United States of America)

SUMMARY

The WAFS Washington Provider State implemented the World Area Forecast System (WAFS) Internet File Server (WIFS) in March 2010. It is the replacement for the ISCS satellite broadcast, which will be terminated 30 June 2012. ISCS user States must switch to WIFS to have access to OPMET and WAFS products after June 30, 2012.

This paper relates to:

Strategic Objectives:

- A. Safety – Enhance global civil aviation safety
- D. Efficiency – Enhance the efficiency of aviation operations

Global Plan Initiatives:

- GPI-18 Aeronautical information
- GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. Introduction

1.1 The Sub Group will recall that the WAFS Internet File Server (WIFS) was first introduced to the CNS/MET SG at Meeting 13 in Working Paper 29. From that paper the following draft conclusion was adopted:

Draft Conclusion 13/31 – Extension of the ISCS-G2 and the implementation of the WAFS Internet file server (WIFS)

That, WAFS Washington Provider State advise the ISCS user States about its intentions to:

a) continue to work on extending the current ISCS-G2 service through 30 June 2012 to allow users sufficient time for transition to replacement services; and

b) provide an operational WAFS Internet File Server (WIFS) by March 2010.

1.2 By State Letter dated 10 May 2010 the ICAO Bangkok Office brought to the attention of the States the need to begin their process to transition to WIFS. The purpose of this paper is to review some of the actions and the status of this transition and to remind States of their responsibilities to ensure that there is no lapse in the ability to access WAFS products after the ISCS is terminated.

2. Discussions

2.1 The United States, as a WAFS Provider State for OPMET information and WAFS forecasts, is pleased to report that WIFS became operational in May 2010. Several States and vendor have begun using and testing WIFS. The United States is encouraging States in the ASIA/PAC Region under the ISCS footprint to begin the process of transition to the WIFS. States should plan to test their connectivity to the WIFS before the ISCS is terminated to ensure continued receipt of OPMET and WAFS forecasts.

2.2 The existing International Satellite Communication Service (ISCS) second generation (G2) service **will terminate 30 June 2012**. ISCS user States must make plans and provisions to switch from ISCS G-2 to WIFS as soon as possible, in order to receive OPMET information and WAFS forecasts.

2.3 SADIS user States who have access to ISCS will be allowed to access WIFS but as a means for backup. More information will be provided on how that process will be implemented before ISCS is terminated.

2.4 The United States has a list of point of contacts from the States and will assist these representatives as needed to ensure there is appropriate oversight and management of the WAFS workstations to successfully transition to WIFS. Appendix A provides the list of POC information that the FAA has on file, and the FAA requests members at this meeting to once again reaffirm that this information is still correct.

2.5 Information on WIFS can be obtained by referring to the WIFS User Guide, which is available on the WIFS web site, <http://aviationweather.gov/wifs>. The WIFS web site contains user documentation, instructions for reporting problems, contact information, important advisory postings, and more.

2.6 Users will need an identification and password to access WIFS. Requests for access should be directly sent to associated email specified account on the form, or directly to Mr. Steven Albersheim, Steven.Albersheim@faa.gov. Requests should follow the format and information contained in the WIFS User Guide, or it that can be found on the above WIFS web-site, and an example of this authorization form can be found in Appendix B.

3. Action required by the meeting

3.1 The group is invited to consider the following draft conclusion:

Draft Conclusion 14/xx – Transition to WAFS Internet File Server (WIFS) from ISCS-G2

That, WAFC Washington Provider State:

- a) work with ISCS user States, in cooperation with the Secretariat and APAC Office, to ensure ISCS user States transition to WIFS from ISCS
- b) States to review Points of Contact and complete WIFS authorization form and send the completed form to the associated email account; and
- c) report back on transition status to CNS/MET SG/15.

4. Action required by the meeting

4.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information in this paper; and
- b) Decide on a draft conclusion for the meeting report.

APPENDIX A
ISCS OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

Note. – This list is kept up-to-date by the ICAO Secretariat based on the input from States

Update: November 2009

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**APPENDIX B
 EXAMPLE OF THE AUTHORIZATION FORM**

Note. – This is an example of the form – the most up-to-date version of this form can be found on the WIFS web-site

WIFS AUTHORIZED USER APPLICATION

General Information	
Date of Application	
State	
ID	
WAFC	
Point of Contact Information	
First Name	
Last Name	
E-mail	
Phone	
Address	
City	
WorkStation Information	
E-mail	
Phone	
Address	
City	
Vendor	
Operating System	
FAA Approval Authority	
Approved Date	
Approved By	
For AWC use only	
Entered Date	
Entered By	
User Name	
Password	